Docket No.: A-2829

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I hereby certify the postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date indicated below.

By:

Date: May 10, 2002

REC

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

MAY 2 8 2002

Applicant ·

Lutz Richter et al.

TECHNOLOGY CENTUR

Applic. No.

09/852,348

Filed

May 9, 2001

Title

Gathering Stapler with Separate Drives and Method of Operating

the Gathering Stapler

Art Unit

3721

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98 copies of the following patents and/or publications are submitted herewith:

United States Patent No. 6,142,353 (Boss et al.), dated November 7, 2000;

European Patent Application EP 0 958 942 A1 (Boss et al.), dated November 24, 1999, which corresponds with U.S. patent No. 6,142,353.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark P. Weichselbaum Reg. No. 43,248

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